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H. Ford

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The Director of Central Intelligence
Washington, D.C. 20505

NIC # 01997-86
22 April 1986

National Intelligence Council

Ambassador Morton I. Abramowitz
Director of Intelligence and Research
Department of State
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mort:

Bob Gates has asked me to respond to your memorandum about an Intelligence Community analysis of the Soviet fusion initiative.

I have discussed the matter with Julian Nall, our NIO for Science and Technology, and we are prepared to recommend to the DCI that the NIC prepare a suitable IIM or SNIE as you requested. We would like to do this with the following understandings:

- Completion of the project would take several months; NFIB approval, if required, may be as late as September.
- The project would be based in large part on an OSWR analysis which is now underway. Material from the DOE and DOD studies which you mentioned would be among the additional data included.
- The OSWR study, as well as those from DOE and DOD, will not address the political questions which you raised. Therefore, we would be pleased to have INR prepare that portion of the study for use by the principal drafter.

I trust the above is satisfactory with you. We will plan to start our study very soon and look forward to working closely with INR. Please give me an early ring on this.

Sincerely,



Harold P. Ford
Acting Chairman
National Intelligence Council

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